

**Amendment to the Specification:**

Please replace paragraph [0001] with the following amended paragraph:

[0001] This application claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application Nos. 60/408,735 and 60/409,311, both filed September 6, 2002, which are incorporated herein by this reference. This application is related to U.S. Application Serial Nos. 10/655,951 and 10/655,963, both filed September 4, 2003, which are incorporated herein by this reference.

Please replace paragraph [0069] with the following amended paragraph:

[0069] Additional details regarding snapshots are provided in co-pending U.S. Patent Application No. 10/655,951, entitled "TIME AND SPACE EFFICIENT TECHNIQUE FOR CREATING VIRTUAL VOLUME COPIES," ~~Attorney Docket No. 3PD-M-8497-US~~, and U.S. Patent Application No. 10/655,963, entitled "EFFICIENT AND RELIABLE VIRTUAL VOLUME MAPPING," ~~Attorney Docket No. M-8498-US~~, both filed concurrently. These applications are assigned to the same Assignee as the present application and are hereby incorporated by reference in their entireties.